



Tropical Vines for Hawai'i Landscapes

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Vines are highly versatile. They can shelter against the sun on arbors, screen out unwanted views or add privacy on fences, cover the ground as ground covers, or add color to landscapes as shrubs.

Some of the best flowering plants with outstanding color are vines. Examples are *Pentalinon lutea* (yellow mandevilla, Fig. 1), *Ipomoea horsfalliae* (Kuhio vine, Fig. 2), *Pyrostegia venusta* (huapala, Fig. 3), *Mucuna novoguineensis* (red jade vine), *Strongylodon macrobotrys* (jade vine), *Bauhinia corymbosa* (phanera, Fig. 4), *Mandevilla x amabilis* 'Alice Dupont' (mandevilla, Fig. 5), and *Bauhinia cumingiana* (Fig. 6).

Other vines are exceptional xeriscape plants, such as *Cryptostegia madagascariensis* (Madagascar rubber vine, Fig. 7), *Petrea volubilis* (sandpaper vine, Fig. 8), and *Marsdenia floribunda* (stephanotis, Fig. 9).

Excellent wall creepers are *Macfadyena unguis-cati* (cat's claw creeper, Fig. 10), and *Ficus pumila* (creeping fig, Fig. 11).

Vines that can add a tropical feel to a landscape are *Epipremnum pinnatum* 'Aureum' (golden pothos, Fig. 12), *Monstera deliciosa* (monstera), *Passiflora vitifolia* (red passion flower), and *Thunbergia mysorensis* (Mysore trumpet vine, Fig. 13).

Some good shade vines are *Artabotrys hexapetalus* (climbing ylang ylang, Fig. 14), *Begonia convolvulaceae* (Fig. 15), *Epipremnum pinnatum* 'Aureum', (golden pothos, Fig. 12), *Hedera helix* (English ivy, Fig. 16), and *Syngonium podophyllum* (nephthytis).

Many vines grow vigorously and can outgrow their root system unless the excessive top growth is pruned to stay in balance with their root system. Proper spacing can also help. Most original landscape plans space the plants too close together. I realize that "instant landscap-

ing" is one of the reasons for close spacing, but excessive plants must be culled out at a later date, and often this is not done.

Many vines are invasive, including *Coccinea grandis* (ivy gourd vine, Fig. 17), *Cryptostegia madagascariensis* (Madagascar rubber vine, Fig. 7), *Ipomoea alba* (moon-flower vine, Fig. 18), *Paederia foetida* (maile pilau, Fig. 19), and *Passiflora mollissima* (banana poka, Fig. 20). *Cryptostegia madagascariensis* (Madagascar rubber vine, Fig. 7) is very attractive and xeriscapic and in the past was often used, but it is little known today. It could have been very useful as a highway plant, as it requires no irrigation, but because it is listed as one of the worst invasive plants by all the counties of Hawai'i, it cannot be used for this purpose.

The list of vines is long, and many could be invasive. I will not try to categorize which ones are invasive, because many of them have not been evaluated for invasiveness. My favorite vines are *Pentalinon lutea* (yellow mandevilla, Fig. 1), *Ipomoea horsfalliae* (Kuhio vine, Fig. 2), *Pyrostegia venusta* (huapala, Fig. 3), *Saritaea magnifica* (purple bignonia, Fig. 21), *Bauhinia corymbosa* (phanera, Fig. 4), *Bauhinia cumingiana*, (Fig. 6), *Bougainvillea* 'Raspberry Ice' (Fig. 22), *Petrea volubilis* (sandpaper vine, Fig. 8), *Solanum seaforthianum* (star potato, Fig. 23), *Artabotrys hexapetalus* (climbing ylang ylang, Fig. 14), *Marsdenia floribunda* (stephanotis, Fig. 9), *Epipremnum pinnatum* 'Aureum' (golden pothos, Fig. 12), *Thunbergia mysorensis* (Mysore trumpet vine, Fig. 13), *Thunbergia grandiflora* 'Alba' (white trumpet vine, Fig. 24), *Pseudogynoxys chenopodioides* (Mexican flame vine, Fig. 25), *Passiflora vitifolia* (red passion flower), *Strongylodon macrobotrys* (jade vine), *Macfadyenia unguis-cati* (cat's-

claw creeper, Fig. 10), *Syngonium podophyllum* (nephthytis), and *Clerodendron splendens* (red clerodendron Fig. 26). The reasons for choosing these vines were many. It was a difficult decision in many cases. You can make your own decision. Making such a list will help you narrow down the vines that you like. You can find pictures of them in the following pages of this publication.

The following vines can be seen growing on arbors at CTAHR's Pearl City Urban Garden Center on O'ahu: *Pandorea jasminoides* (pandorea, Fig. 27), *Poivera* spp. (orange eye lash vine), *Marsdenia floribunda* (stephanotis, Fig. 9), *Phaseolus caracalla* (snail vine), *Mandevilla x amabilis* 'Alice Dupont' (mandevilla, Fig. 5), *Ipomoea horsfalliae* (Kuhio vine, Fig. 2), *Tecomanthe dendrophila* (tecomanthe), *Pyrostegia venusta* (huapala, Fig. 3), *Quisqualis indica* (Rangoon creeper, Fig. 28), *Thunbergia grandiflora* (blue trumpet vine, Fig. 29), *Podranea ricasoliana* (pink trumpet vine, Fig. 30), *Argyreia nervosa* (baby woodrose, Fig. 31), *Mansoa hymenaea* (garlic vine, Fig. 32), *Antigonon leptopus* (Mexican creeper, Fig. 33), *Petrea volubilis* (sandpaper vine, Fig. 8), *Pentalinon lutea* (yellow mandevilla, Fig. 1), *Tristellateia australasiae* (galphimia vine, Fig. 34), *Stigmaphyllon floribundum* (orchid vine, Fig. 35), and *Pseudogynoxys chenopodioides* (Mexican flame vine, Fig. 25).

Because many vines are exceptionally attractive and colorful or very vigorous and drought tolerant, the effort to learn about and use tropical vines can result in unusual and exotic landscapes. The following list of vines was made for your perusal. This is a subjective list and certainly is not a complete list. You should add or subtract according to your own likes and dislikes.

Some vines to consider

Antigonon leptopus (Mexican creeper)
Argyreia nervosa (baby wood rose)
Artabotrys hexapetalus (climbing ylang ylang)
Bauhinia corymbosa (phanera)
Bauhinia cumingiana
Begonia convolvulaceae
Chloranthus inconspicuus (Chinese rice vine)
Clerodendron x speciosum (clerodendron vine)
Clerodendron splendens (red clerodendron)
Clerodendron thomsonae (bleeding heart clerodendron)
Clitoria ternatea (blue butterfly pea)
Congea griffithiana (congea)

Epipremnum pinnatum 'Aureum' (golden pothos)
Ficus pumila (creeping fig)
Hedera helix (English ivy)
Ipomoea aquatica (ung-choi)
Ipomoea batatas (sweetpotato)
Ipomoea horsfalliae (Kuhio vine)
Ipomoea obscura (small white morning glory)
Ipomoea pes-caprae (beach morning glory)
Ipomoea triloba (Aiea morning glory)
Jacquemontia ovalifolia subsp. *Sandwicensis*
 (pa'u-o-hi'iaka)
Jasminum laurifolium forma *nitidum*
 (angel wing jasmine)
Jasminum multiflorum (star jasmine)
Jasminum sambac (pikake)
Lonicera japonica (Japanese honeysuckle)
Macfadyena unguis-cati (cat's claw creeper)
Mandevilla x amabilis 'Alice Dupont' (mandevilla)
Mansoa hymenaea (garlic vine)
Marsdenia floribunda (stephanotis)
Monstera spp. (monstera)
Mucuna novoguineensis (red jade)
Myoporum parvifolium (spreading myoporum)
Norantea guianensis (red hot poker)
Pandorea jasminoides 'Rosea' (bower of beauty)
Passiflora edulis (purple lilikoi)
Passiflora edulis forma *flavicarpa* (yellow lilikoi)
Passiflora edulis forma *flavicarpa* x *Passiflora edulis*
 (hybrid lilikoi)
Passiflora ligularis (lemiwai)
Passiflora quadrangularis (giant granadilla)
Passiflora vitifolia (red passion flower)
Pentalinon lutea (yellow mandevilla)
Petrea volubilis (sandpaper)
Philodendron bipinnatifidum (philodendron)
Plectranthus australis (swedish ivy)
Podranea ricasoliana (pink trumpet)
Poranopsis paniculata (snow creeper)
Pseudogynoxys chenopodioides (Mexican flame)
Pyrostegia venusta (huapala)
Quisqualis indica (Rangoon creeper)
Saritaea magnifica (purple bignonia)
Senecia macroglossus variegates (variegated wax ivy)
Solandra maxima (cup of gold)
Solanum seaforthianum (star potato)
Stigmaphyllon floribundum (orchid)
Strongylodon macrobotrys (jade)
Syngonium auritum (five fingers syngonium)

Syngonium podophyllum (nephthytis)
Tecomanthe dendrophila (tecomanthe)
Telosma cordata (pakalana)
Tetrastigma voinieranum (chestnut vine)
Thunbergia fragrans (white thunbergia vine)
Thunbergia grandiflora (blue trumpet)
Thunbergia grandiflora 'Alba' (white trumpet)
Thunbergia laurifolia (laurel-leaved thunbergia)
Thunbergia mysorensis (Mysore trumpet)
Tristellateia australasiae (galphimia)
Vanilla planifolia (vanilla)

Some of the worst invasive vines

Coccinia grandis (ivy gourd)
Cryptostegia madagascariensis (Madagascar rubber)
Ipomoea alba (moonflower)
Paederia foetida (maile pilau)
Passiflora mollissima (banana poka)

Resources

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1. *Pentalinon lutea* (yellow mandevilla)



2. *Ipomoea horsfalliae* (Kuhio)



2. *Ipomoea horsfalliae*



3. *Pyrostegia venusta* (huapala)



4. *Bauhinia corymbosa* (phanera)



4. *Bauhinia corymbosa*



5. *Mandevilla x amabilis* 'Alice Dupont'



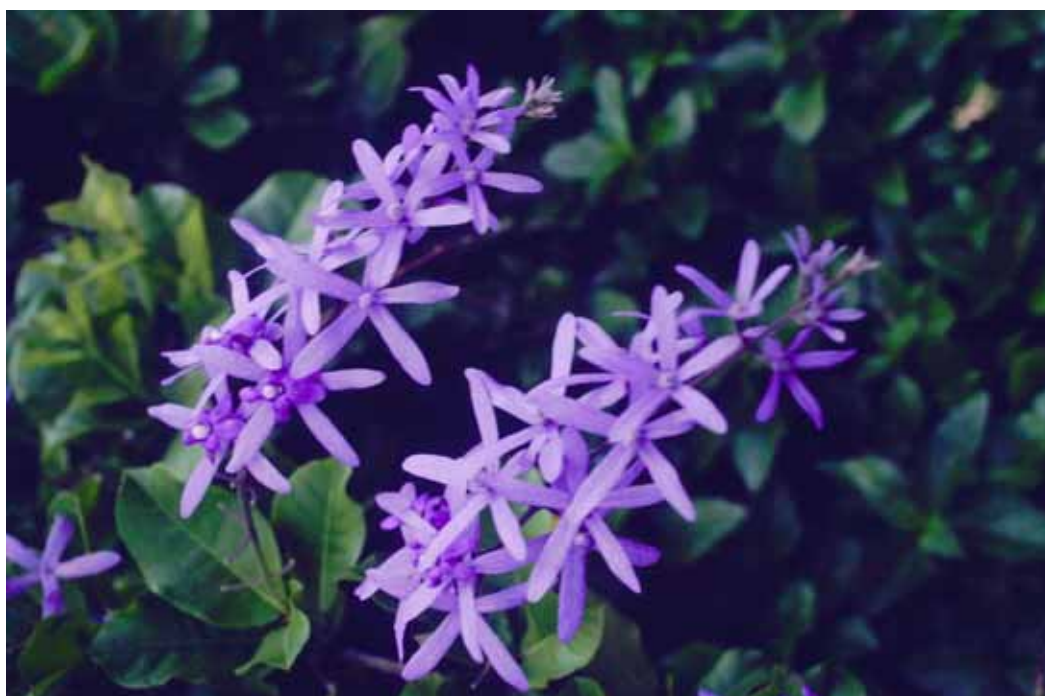
6. *Bauhinia cumingiana*



7. *Cryptostegia madagascariensis*
(Madagascar rubber)



9. *Marsdenia floribunda* (stephanotis)



8. *Petrea volubilis* (sandpaper)



10. *Macfadyena unguis-cati*
(cat's claw creeper)



11. *Ficus pumila* (creeping fig)



12. *Epipremnum pinnatum* 'Aureum' (golden pothos)



13. *Thunbergia mysorensis* (Mysore trumpet)



14. *Artabotrys hexapetalus*
(climbing ylang ylang)



14. *Artabotrys hexapetalus*



14. *Artabotrys hexapetalus*



15. *Begonia convolvulaceae*



16. *Hedera helix* (English ivy)



17. *Coccinea grandis* (ivy gourd)



17. *Coccinea grandis*



17. *Coccinea grandis*



18. *Ipomoea alba* (moonflower)



18. *Ipomoea alba*



19. *Paederia foetida* (maile pilau)



19. *Paederia foetida*



20. *Passiflora mollissima* (banana poka)



21. *Saritaea magnifica* (purple bignonia)



20. *Passiflora mollissima* (banana poka)



22. *Bougainvillea* 'Raspberry ice' (raspberry ice)



23. *Solanum seaforthianum* (star potato)



24. *Thunbergia grandiflora* 'Alba' (white trumpet vine)



24. *Thunbergia grandiflora* 'Alba'



25. *Pseudogynoxys chenopodioides* (Mexican flame vine)



26. *Clerodendron splendens* (red clerodendron vine)



27. *Pandorea jasminoides* (pandorea)



28. *Quisqualis indica* (Rangoon creeper)



29. *Thunbergia grandiflora* (blue trumpet vine)



30. *Podranea ricasoliana* (pink trumpet vine)



31. *Argyreia nervosa* (baby wood rose)



31. *Argyreia nervosa*



32. *Mansoa hymenaea* (garlic vine)



34. *Tristellateia australasiae* (galphimia vine)



33. *Antigonon leptopus* (Mexican creeper)



35. *Stigmaphyllon floribundum* (orchid vine)



35. *Stigmaphyllon floribundum*